

Modular Weapon System



DESCRIPTION

The Modular Weapon System (MWS) consists of an M16A4 rifle and an M4 carbine version. An M1913 Rail Adapter System (RAS) replaces the upper hand guards and incorporates a removable rear-carrying handle. The RAS provides the capability to mount various accessories, such as a modified M203 launching system, high intensity flashlights, and infrared (IR) laser target designators, as well as optics. The MWS M4 carbine variant will be selectively fielded to Marines requiring shorter carbine versions of the MWS.

OPERATIONAL IMPACT

The MWS will significantly improve the ability to mount various accessories and will enhance accuracy, target detection, and engagement capabilities in both day and night conditions.

PROGRAM STATUS

Fielding of the MWS began in FY 2003 and continues through FY 2006, for a total of 65,995 M16A4 and 17,066 M4 weapons.

Procurement Profile:	FY 06	FY07
Quantity:	22,549	0
Developer/Manufacturer:		
• M4: Colt Manufacturing Company, Inc., Hartford, CT		
• M16A4: Fabrique National Military Industries, Columbia, SC		